

## The Marble Hill Press

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MARBLE HILL, MISSOURI

King Peter of Serbia hasn't yet forwarded his sympathetic telegram to the revolutionists.

Perhaps Mrs. Chadwick is among the other debtors who would be willing to sign a protocol.

There is more pleasure in giving than in receiving. This applies to medicine, kicks and advice.

One hundred and thirty-five million people today speak the English language—some of them correctly.

The demand for automobiles largely exceeds the supply. A good many people must have quit eating meat.

Now that Anna Held has cleared \$500,000 on a financial deal she can afford to take daily baths in cream.

The married New Yorker who said that every married couple's life is dull should study the case of the Philppes.

The Kaiser does not object to the drinking of toasts in water by officers of the army if the officers do not mind it.

A polar bear has frozen in Chicago. This will surprise the people who have always thought the Windy City was a hot town.

A Boston poet makes Eliza rhyme with "advertiser." It must require a good deal of lashing to get the muse to perform in Boston.

The idea of extracting gold from salt water is by no means new. Gold in small quantities has been found frequently in salted mines.

The Chicago woman who froze her nose while riding in a cable car was thankful that it wasn't her chin, now that she wants to tell about it.

An expert says that boys who like to kiss the pretty girls are feeble-minded. Can you picture what the usefulness of that expert must be?

Canon Lytton of England says a man cannot eat meat and lead a pure life. The canon should understand that billonness is not incurable.

It is alleged that in Pittsburgh there are more than thirty millionaires who have not purchased connections with the nobility. Boys must run in their families.

A drunken soldier in Warsaw killed two children, but a Russian correspondent defends him, explaining that the children were very small and hardly counted.

Three London scientists who propose to secure a limited supply of gold from sea water are likely to succeed in their plan unless they wake up too soon.

The gentleman who proposes to dynamite his way to the north pole might get some valuable preliminary practice by blowing a hole through the Rocky mountains.

The Pennsylvania man who has been arrested for stealing a railroad is paying the penalty for his failure to first incorporate himself under the laws of New Jersey.

Mrs. Chadwick filed no list of creditors. She evidently thinks the men who yielded cash for hopes of gain had their hopes, and that was all there was coming to them.

John Burroughs starts the question, "Do animals think?" Harry Lehr says he has a parrot that thinks, but the sagacious folk know better than to say what it thinks of its owner.

The establishment of the Columbia university department of journalism has been postponed for an indefinite time. However, the public will be kept informed as to what is going on in the world.

Poetic Senator Pettus: "Don't you remember the box of flowers in front of the cabin door when you were a boy?" he queried. "Don't you remember the violets growing?" You can almost sing it.

The bankruptcy courts the other day relieved a man of debts amounting to \$1,000,000. The courts probably took the broad ground that a financial genius of that kind ought not to be hampered.

In announcing that it has discovered school children of from six to eight years old that smoke, Philadelphia gives evidence of resorting to desperate methods to get away from that reputation of dilatoriness.

The Chicago man who has been fined for swearing over the telephone probably won't quit the use of profanity all at once, but he will be likely to hang up the receiver before he starts in to express his feelings.

One of the courts has decided that an American girl who marries a foreigner with a title doesn't have to pay his debts. Hereafter tailors, barbers and boarding house keepers who trust the noblemen of Europe will do as at their own risk.

According to a dispatch from St. Augustine, the big sun spot, 80,000 miles long, observed by Prof. Cole of Chicago, was plainly seen through smoked glass "on the northwest corner of the sun." Comparatively few people have known that the sun has corners until now.

A cranky scientist up North wants to know what atoms, like we know, are made of. If he succeeds, he should become popular some States would soon be mightily hard up for legislators.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Brooklyn minister asks: "If men must have games of chance, why don't they go to Wall street?" Clergyman never heard of the chance of the snowball in Hades. That's why.

It is improbable that Great Britain and Germany will go to war. Their ideals are too high. Besides, some of their best warships are only half built.

## SQUIRE JOHN

A TALE OF THE CUBAN WAR

BY J. GEORGE RATHER

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### CHAPTER XIV.

#### A Mad Chase on a "Wild-Cat Engine."

When they have gained the cab of the locomotive upon which General Toledo has seized for some important government business, Jack and Smithers draw a long breath of relief.

The future looks brighter in comparison with the blackness that so far enveloped them. The engine, however, is in the hands of the Cuban capital many lights are spinning into sight, making the picture more and more gloomy.

They have rattled over a trestle or bridge, and now plunge among the hills back of the city.

The last light vanishes from view; for the present, at least, goodbye to Havana.

Around them the country is growing wilder. At first occasional houses may be seen, with gardens; then come the plantations, and finally the great sugar cane.

It seems to drop upon them as though they plunged down and deeper into a canyon, when in reality such is not the case.

Already the driver has succeeded in raising his engine over the rails at a rate of speed that must have shocked the officers of the road, could they but see it.

Jack had early found a good hold, and hangs on grimly; ditto Smithers. The general occupies a seat beside the stoker, who is kept busy half the time tossing pine knots into the hungry maw of the fire box.

Smithers, who is sitting on the floor, looks at the general with a look of awe. He seems to drop upon them as though they plunged down and deeper into a canyon, when in reality such is not the case.

When they spin around a sharp curve it is all Jack can do to hold on. He even imagines the massive maw of the engine to be a giant, and he is about to jump overboard.

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partly; for the curtains are only partly drawn, and they pass, the head of the don is thrust out, while he asks, "What station is it?"

Jack dares not trust himself to reply, for his poor Spanish might betray him. As it is, he half turns his head in another direction, though in the moment his eager gaze has fallen upon the enchanting face of Jessie Cameron.

Fortunately a guard standing near catches the energy, and believing it addressed to himself, moves away.

Smithers has also noticed that the other compartments are dark. He even tries the door of one in his nervous way, and finds it locked.

"What do you suppose it means?" queries Jack, who has caught the action.

"There you have me, sir. Hardly possible there are passengers inside who have gone to sleep. I fancy people wouldn't take things so easily on a Cuban railway just at present, where people danger hovers in the air. But I don't think we want to shut ourselves up in one of these compartments. We would be powerless to do anything."

"Just so. We must be where we can work."

"Then I fancy the next car will be apt to suit us better."

(To be continued.)

### LOYAL TO HOME TOWN.

#### Scotchman Admired Paris, but It Was Not Peebles.

Andrew Carnegie, at a recent dinner in New Orleans, told a good story.

"Peebles," said Mr. Carnegie, "would strike the stranger as a black sheep. Despite its wretched mills, despite its black cattle and its black-faced sheep, despite its River Tweed and its bonhomie, Scotchmen love their country."

"Peebles" got a parish to strike the visitor as any or lively.

"Nevertheless the inhabitants of Peebles love their home. They are an old people, a people added with the power of saying amusing, memorable things."

"An old Peebles sheep-raiser once got together a little money, and made a journey to Paris. Paris, he had heard, was the most joyful, the most beautiful city in the world. Therefore he would see it before he died."

"On his return a month or so later his friends gathered around him.

"Tell us," they said, "what Paris is like. Tell us how it compares with the Scotch cities you have seen."

"The old man compressed his lips. Then he said, rubbing his chin with a reflective look:

"Paris, all things considered, is a wonderful place, but still, give me Peebles for pleasure!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### A Cruel Joke.

The late Charles Parsons, the millionaire railroad man of New York, was noted for his kind heart and for his dislike of practical jokes. The one day said:

"I have learned practical joking ever since my residence in New Orleans, some fifty years ago."

"I knew in New Orleans a young man of sensitive nature, who happened to be deaf. He hated his deafness. He tried to make himself heard, really, he was not deaf at all. And this conduct, which was excusable enough, drew down upon him an amount of ridicule that was pitiable."

"I shall never forget the poor young man's look of pain on a day when he was the unconscious victim of a practical joker."

"The joker, walking with me, spied the deaf youth on the other side of the street, and, for some time, he and before I could intervene, catching the other's eye, he opened his mouth wide and worked it frantically, as though shouting at the top of his lungs."

"The deaf man hurried over with a vexed, bearded look."

"You needn't shout so loud. Do you think I can't hear you?" he said.

A Matrimonial Mistake.

Henry Schaefer, one of the champions of the North American Skat association, lives in Milwaukee, and at a Milwaukee wedding breakfast he said, apropos of rice, the other day:

"The bridegroom is fond of rice. At least I hope he is fond of rice. Otherwise he will be disappointed tomorrow, next week, next month, when rice comes falling out of his umbrella, his hat, his slippers, his gloves. Some husbands, a year after their marriage, still find rice in unexpected places."

"What else would you have when we go to such a fine place?" he asked.

"No, indeed, Oh, my indeed."

"You don't seem to like rice much," said the hostess.

"No," the man replied. "It is associated with one of the most distressing mistakes I was ever guilty of."

Mamma Was Shocked.

"Mr. Huggins asked me to marry him last night," said the blushing damsel.

"And what did you say?" asked her mother.

"Why," replied the fair maid, "I told him to ask you."

"Ask me?" exclaimed the astonished parent. "Why, my dear, you surely wouldn't want your poor old mother to commit matrimony, would you?"

Cottages for Veterans' Wives.

In order that the old soldier who enters the National Soldiers' Home need not be separated from his wife, if she still lives, the Ladies of the G. A. R. in California have undertaken to erect a number of cottages at Sacramento, near the home, which will be turned over to the married soldiers for their occupancy.

The New Thames Tunnel.

The Ratcliff Highway tunnel now being built under the Thames will take five years to construct. Its length will be 6,883 feet, with an external diameter of sixteen feet and two footways for foot and light and one-half inches wide. When it is finished there will be three tunnels under the Thames at London.

Encouraged.

"Do you think," she asked the dermatologist, "that you can make my nose beautiful?"

"Well, I may not be able to make it beautiful, but I couldn't help improving it some, even if I were to hit it with a mallet."

Equally Divided Wealth.

Prof. William Smart, the political economist, says that if British wealth were divided equally each person would receive \$195.48 a year, or \$3.62 a week.

## LOSS ESTIMATED OVER \$1,000,000 IN BIG INDIANAPOLIS FIRE

Indianapolis, Ind., February 26, 2:30 p. m.—A general alarm at 1:45 a. m. called the fire department to the grand hotel, located one block north of the block destroyed by fire earlier in the night. In fact, the entire department was engaged in suppressing the flames at this district when summoned to the new danger. There were few guests in the grand, but most of them were among the spectators of the earlier fire, and it was not believed any lives were in jeopardy.

The fire district is bounded by Georgia and Meridian streets, Jackson place and the Union depot shaft. Just for three hours or more a general conflagration was threatened. Firebrands fell in a perfect storm over the business portion of the city and an every building were stationed men equipped with fire apparatus.

In the A. Kiefer drug company's warehouse many barrels of oil and explosives were stored, while in the Dutchess company's wholesale house a surgeon's stock of fireworks were located, and in these several serious explosions occurred. The west wall of the Kiefer building fell with it, in thirty minutes after the fire started. One fireman sustained a broken leg, and in the rush to escape from the burning building a number of persons were injured.

The flames then spread across Louisiana street, lighting the roof of the Union station train sheds, and for several minutes the efforts of the firemen were centered in that direction.

The fire was one of the most spectacular in the history of the city.

When discovered by a watchman the flames were bursting out from the windows on the second and third floors of the east front of Fahney & McCrea's building, sheets of flames escaping into Meridian street. Desperate efforts were made by Watson's attorneys.

More than a thousand men, women and girls were jammed into the court, room, while hundreds filled the corridors, claiming for admission.

Many of those who crowded seats came early in the morning, bringing benches with them. They did not leave the court until the last argument.

Excursion trains were run from Hamilton and Perry, bringing in hundreds from those towns and also from Center, Frankfort, Bowling Green and other nearby points. Sleighs, buggies and farm wagons filled the streets in front of the Courthouse.

Between the arguments, which lasted about two weeks, the spectators would spend the time in talking. Girls and women came and cakes as though they were witnessing a melodrama, and each argument was an act.

As to the play, the spectators were moved to tears or mirth as the attorneys depicted Watson luring his wife into a thicket to administer a deadly potion, or held up to ridicule the statement of some of the witnesses.

The most dramatic period of the trial was when Prosecuting Attorney Hulse told of the girlhood of Mrs. Watson and how happy she was when she was a bride, but cried because she was to leave the old home.

At first the hotel seemed doomed and firemen had great difficulty in getting water to the roof, but at 2:30 the fire was believed to be under control.

The entire loss is believed to be over \$1,000,000.



The Explorer and His Companion are Packing the Sledge. Find His Companion.

### STATE REFINERY BILL IS ADOPTED IN KANSAS

Kansas Legislature Strikes Telling Blow to Standard Oil Company.

Topeka, Kas., Kansas drove a nail in the casket of the Standard Oil Company's business in Kansas Wednesday when Kansas passed the bill which will bury the Rockefeller trust so deep that it will never raise its head in the Sunflower State again.

First the House passed the bill, which gives the State \$110,000 to build and operate a refinery. It passed the Senate last week. Governor Hoch announced Wednesday night that he would sign the bill immediately. Hoch has been against the bill since the Standard Oil Company's boycott on Kansas oil. The bill passed the House late Wednesday afternoon by a vote of 91 to 20.

Under the oil bill's provisions a refinery will be erected at Peru, Kas. Another provision will be built there to provide convict labor for the refinery.

This ends one of the most bitter fights ever before the Kansas Legislature. The Standard Oil Company and the railroads have maintained strong lobbies here vainly trying to defeat the bill.

The Kansas House also passed the maximum freight rate bill, which will keep the railroads from lowering the Standard Oil Company's rates. It makes pipe lines common carriers also.

Morse Before Grand Jury.

New York, Charles W. Morse, banker, all money, whose name has been involved in the Dodge and Morse divorce tangle, was examined Friday by a Grand Jury which is investigating that affair. This is the second time Mr. Morse has appeared before the Grand Jury. On the first instance he refused to answer questions on the ground that his answers might incriminate himself. District Attorney Jerome would not say whether Mr. Morse had answered the questions asked him Friday.

Fire Guts Office Building.

New Orleans, La.: The top floors of the Macheke office building on Canal street were gutted by fire shortly after midnight Saturday. The loss will reach \$150,000.

Soldier Dies from Wood Alcohol.

Juncheon City, Kas.: David Hillman, an artificer of the 6th battery, field artillery, at Fort Riley, died at the post hospital Wednesday morning. Tuesday evening he drank wood alcohol by mistake and the poison caused his death a few hours later.

Kansas Railroad Law.

Topeka, Kas.: The house Tuesday unanimously passed the Governor railroad bill, which is patterned after the Iowa law. It will now go to the senate.

Engine Kills Yard Laborer.

Creston, Ia.: Edward Freeman, yard laborer, was fatally injured Monday evening by being struck by a switch engine. His head was closely banded to protect him from the cold and he did not hear the engine.

Senator Tillman Ill.

Philadelphia, Pa.: United States Senator Tillman of South Carolina, arrived here late Monday night, and was met by his physician. Senator Tillman says he has been in ill health, and that he came here for treatment.

## WATSON CASE GOES TO THE JURY

Attorneys Conclude Arguments Before Courtroom Crowded With Women.

New London, Mo.: The case of Dr. Watson went to the jury Friday night after the most sensational all day and night session in the history of Ralls county court, in which women fought for seats and were scored as scandal-mongers by Watson's attorneys.

More than a thousand men, women and girls were jammed into the court, room, while hundreds filled the corridors, claiming for admission.

Many of those who crowded seats came early in the morning, bringing benches with them. They did not leave the court until the last argument.

Excursion trains were run from Hamilton and Perry, bringing in hundreds from those towns and also from Center, Frankfort, Bowling Green and other nearby points. Sleighs, buggies and farm wagons filled the streets in front of the Courthouse.

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The most dramatic period of the trial was when Prosecuting Attorney Hulse told of the girlhood of Mrs. Watson and how happy she was when she was a bride, but cried because she was to leave the old home.

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